

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12016 291801Z

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ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 EURE-00 /004 W

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P 291557Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6996

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12016

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. BICENTENNIAL FILM FESTIVAL: WE NOW HAVE USIA 23077 WHICH PRESUME DEPT. CLEARED. (IT STILL BUGS ME THAT WE CANNOT BE 100 PERCENT SURE.) WE DON'T THINK IT A GOOD IDEA TO GO TO GOSKINO AGAIN TO ASK ABOUT DECEMBER. GOSKINO'S ATTITUDE TOWARD FESTIVAL IS LUKEWARM AT BEST GIVEN WHAT THEY PERCEIVE AS LACK OF STRONG SUPPORT FOR THEIRS IN US, AND THEY HAVE TOLD US REPEATEDLY THAT NOVEMBER DATES ARE ONLY ONES FEASIBLE IN 1976. OUR REAL CHOICE, THEREFORE, IS BETWEEN THOSE DATES OR POSTPONEMENT UNTIL SOMETIME IN 1977. WE THOUGHT WE HAD MADE THAT QUITE CLEAR. I HAVE TOLD P&C TO HOLD OFF DOING ANYTHING MORE UNTIL WE TALK TO AMBASSADOR THIS WEEKEND. PRESSING AGAIN FOR DECEMBER WILL CLEARLY BE FUTILE AND I AM RELUCTANT TO STRAIN OUR RELATIONS WITH GOSKINO FURTHER BY CONTINUING TO PRESS THIS POINT.

2. I HAD SAME REACTION AS YOU TO DESIGNATION OF ROBIN IN KIEV "PROTOCOL," AND TOLD HIM SO WHEN I READ TEXT. ALSO TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD PREFER NOT TO USE "PROTOCOL" IN ENGLISH TO CHARACTERIZE SUCH DOCUMENTS, BUT RATHER "MEMORANDUM." HE FELT THAT SIGNED DOCUMENT COULD BE USEFUL BECAUSE IT PUTS IN WRITING OUR POSITION ON NUMBER OF QUESTIONS. I ASSUME HE WILL BE MORE CAREFUL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12016 291801Z

ABOUT TITLE IN FUTURE. (I SUGGESTED THAT HE BE DESIGNATED,

IN ANY WRITTEN DOCUMENT, AS FIRST SECRETARY OF EMBASSY, MOSCOW, WHICH IS PRECISELY HOW HE IS ACCREDITED AT THE MOMENT.) WHILE I WAS IN KIEV, I WAS CAREFUL NOT TO INTRODUCE HIM AS HEAD OF ADVANCE PARTY, BUT RATHER AS "MY COLLEAGUE WHO WILL BE IN CHARGE OF OUR DIPLOMATS IN KIEV WHEN AN OFFICE IS OPENED."

3. WE HAVE RECEIVED SEALED LETTER FROM SENATOR FLOYD HASKELL ADDRESSED TO "HIS EXCELLENCY ELUTIN, MINISTER OF HIGHER AND SPECIAL SECONDARY EDUCATION." IT IS APPARENTLY INTENDED THAT WE TRANSMIT IT, ALTHOUGH IT CAME WITHOUT A TRANSMITTAL SLIP OR COURTESY COPY. WOULD SENATOR'S OFFICE OBJECT IF WE DELIVER IN READDRESSED ENVELOPE INCLUDING YELYUTIN'S FULL NAME AND CORRECT SPELLING AND MAKE COPY FOR FILES?

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE A READING ON THE STATUS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TOWARD MINI-COMPUTERS. WE HAVE HAD NO ANSWER TO MOSCOW 10580 AND 11447 AND SUSPECT THAT OPPOSITION FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE DEPARTMENT BOGGED DOWN A REPLY.
MATLOCK

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